

From: Ruth A. Lucchesi
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/2/02 11:20pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Judge Kollar-Kotelly:

I fear that Microsoft will emerge from the Justice Department and and State anti-trust lawsuits with little or no penalty.

Microsoft's offer to spend money to equip schools with their brand of software is certainly not a penalty for them...it is advertising cost. If they are permitted such an easy fate, all of the creative alternatives to the WINTEL platform will be effectively crushed. The Apple operating systems long used by schools will be drowned by the onslaught of Microsoft technology.

Monopoly power in Microsoft's hands is no different than it was in the hands of Rockefeller and Standard Oil nor Ma Bell. Absolute power (monopoly) corrupts absolutely.

Please consider the fate of other creative methods for computing and insist on a penalty for Microsoft that will break their monopoly. The company should be split into at least two separate and competing companies...one for software and one for an operating system.

Judge Green's decision to split Ma Bell made possible the many innovations we have in telecommunications today: cell phones, pagers, portable phones etc. The next generation deserves the same opportunity to have similar computing technology at their disposal. Please split up Microsoft.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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